

Serial No: 09/718,295

**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No. 3359

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Rui Mei et al.

Examiner: Marianne P. Allen

Serial No: 09/718,295

Group Art Unit: 1631

Filing Date: November 21, 2000

Title: **Methods and Computer Software  
Products for Selecting Nucleic  
Acid Probes**

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE AFTER FINAL**

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed 5/12/2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections and reexamination of the present application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Applicants respectfully petition for a 3-month extension of time within which to respond to the Office Action.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.

*RESPONSE  
NOTED*

*MPA  
12/16/04*